

From: Anu Pugalia
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Fri, May 30, 2003 11:48 PM
Subject: Vote NO on Deregulation of Media

Dear Commissioner:

As you prepare to vote on June 2 to further deregulate the media, I would like to express my strong opposition to this proposal. I believe that deregulation will further increase the influence of large media corporations and lessen diversity on the airwaves. I have witnessed first hand the negative effects of the 1996 Telecommunications Act and fear that further easement of regulations will only compound the problem. Therefore, I urge you to please vote "no."

For example, Clear Channel Communications has acquired many of the major AM and FM radio stations in the Oklahoma City market, where I live. While one would think that ownership would be transparent, it is hardly that. Over the last several years, I have seen a consistent decline in the quality of programming on these radio stations. Not only is local news coverage poor, but national news is usually only limited to sound bytes. Essentially, it seems that the radio stations are only operating for profit. There is rampant use of the same announcers/reporters on different stations and even the morning show on one FM station has been nationalized. I am appalled at the declining quality of radio in the United States and fear that the same will happen to TV and newspapers if you vote to change the rules on Monday.

Furthermore, I am an individual who still doesn't own a cell phone; therefore, I use pay phones every once in a while. Immediately after the 1996 act went into effect, pay phone rates jumped to 35 cents. Officials assured consumers that once competition would be in place, rates would come down. On the contrary, many pay phones nowadays have jumped to 50 cents a call.

In conclusion, we already have too many media conglomerates in operation. Our view of the world is shrinking as a result. Therefore, I would encourage you to VOTE NO on June 2. This is not a time for deregulation. Instead, we should look at how we can restore the quality of the media in the U.S. Certainly, everyone can agree that the quality of programming provided by a media company should be paramount to the number of stations it owns.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anu Pugalia
7328 NW 114th Terrace
Oklahoma City, OK 73162-2707

From: Sydney Vilen
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 30, 2003 11:53 PM
Subject: No to Deregulation

Do not deregulate the media. Do not allow for any more consolidation of media ownership.

Sincerely,
Sydney Vilen
1320 Addison St., A-405
Berkeley, CA 94702

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From: Kallyopae@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Fri, May 30, 2003 11:55 PM
Subject: What the FCC is considering

Commissioner Abernathy:

As an ardent consumer of television and radio, I am totally opposed to the deregulations being considered by the FCC. I like having a variety of choices in the programs I can tune into and benefit from. Under no circumstances should the FCC make it a less competitive, less open, more aimed at corporate hegemony kind of market where the media are concerned.

Sincerely,
Petyr V. Meidus
Capitola CA

Kallyopae@aol.com

From: Margot Griffin
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:06 AM
Subject: duopolies and jobs lost

Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

The public debate you have had regarding the issue of allowing more consolidation in the media world seems to have lacked the issue I would like to raise now. As a member of the Los Angeles Viacom duopoly I have seen first hand the results of what combining two television stations into one has done. We have let go (fired) a large portion of the stations combined staff, and now have one staff running two TV stations. this has led to greatly increased profits for our company, but the overall economy has lost at least 75 high paying positions.

When you increase the level of ownership, you will continue to eliminate more jobs and will continue to decrease the amount of voices filling our airwaves.

Mr. Chairman, you have stated that cable fills that void. I can assure you in local markets it does not. And Los Angeles, through duopolies, continues to loose the divergent viewpoints of differing television and radio stations, as these are now becoming one. KCAL and KCBS are identical, as are KCOP and KTTV, and except for the language KNBC and it's Spanish language duopoly deliver the same exact news.

Jobs and voices are being lost. If your aim is to pad the pockets of those benefiting from these large corporate mergers, so be it...just know that the result is good people on the street and the audience left with less and less original local news.

Thank you for your time.

A.C. Griffin

--- Margot Griffin
--- elesmama@earthlink.net
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, jadeste@fcc.gov, Michael Copps

From: Eric M. Lightman
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:07 AM
Subject: June 2nd morals

Dear sir/madam,

Please block the media consolidation vote on June 2nd. I love America and I love freedom of press, and this is a giant step away from fair and balanced news reporting in my beloved America. Please do not help our country be turned into a one sided entity, if you too cherish freedom and equality. I trust that you will use your power and posity in society as guided by your morals and thus vote NO! on consolidation. Thank you for your time.

From: Friends of Brooklyn
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:08 AM
Subject: FCC Rule Change on Media Ownership Please vote No

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Friends of Brooklyn is writing to you today because of a subtle but most serious threat to our freedom and way of life as Americans. Our freedom to choose the responsible and just paths for our own individual lives is determined to a large degree by our ability to seek and find varying opinions on life itself. The proposed rule change by the FCC on June 2nd will be more of a threat to our individual freedoms as Americans than any current or past threat from armed aggressors.

Please do not abolish the current rules which bar large media conglomerates from owning all TV and Newspapers in any given region. Friends of Brooklyn believes this will affect the public's ability to have access to diverse information.

I urge you, Mr Chairman, and your colleagues to promote a diverse, balanced, and competitive media. Please vote no on the FCC rule change on June 2.

Brian Ramey
Friends of Brooklyn
P.O. Box 85462
Seattle, WA 98145-1462

CC: Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Janice K. Olson Assistant Librarian. Ninth Judicial Circuit. United States Federal Courts, Honorable George W. Bush. President. United States Office of the Executive, Richard Cheney. Vice President. United States Office of the Executive, Honorable Senator Maria Cantwell. United States Senate, Honorable Senator Patty Murray. United States Senate, Friends of Brooklyn Distribution

From: Elaine Miller
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:11 AM
Subject: Consolidation

Please vote against any more consolidation of the media. It is very much too one sided now!

Elaine Miller

From: Mike Grady
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein, president@whitehouse.gov
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:12 AM
Subject: New FCC Regulations

I was appalled by a story I read in BusinessWeek Online. It says that the FCC will vote on Monday, June 2 on lifting a 28-year-old ban on ownership of newspapers and broadcast stations television or radio in the same market.

The article says that this is being done despite requests for a delay from two of the Commission members and that you are refusing to share the details of the proposal with ELECTED officials. Since I don't recall having the opportunity to vote for who I wanted to fill the FCC commission positions it seems to me that this violates democratic principles in an area that is SO FUNDAMENTAL TO THE SURVIVAL of our democratic-republic form of government that in my mind a principled person would not do it.

When I see this combined with the recent attempts on the part of the department of justice to enact legislation that would cause serious erosion of our civil liberties makes me wonder about the motives of the controlling members of the republican party. These moves are exactly the sort of changes that could concentrate enough power in the hands of a few individuals that over a period of time we could find ourselves in a situation where one or two people could do what Hitler did back in the 1930's, i.e. put all lawmaking power into the hands of a few individuals and either suspend the free press or arrange things so they don't have to suspend it because they will control the press.

We need to be very careful to guard against this. I'm sure that many citizens of Germany in the 30's felt that they were safe from something so extreme happening. These are slippery slopes we are standing on. Let's be careful, let's make major changes only with complete deliberation by ELECTED officials.

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From: rrr
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:20 AM
Subject: FCC Media ownership rules

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

In regard to the upcoming action before your committee I would sincerely hope that you would consider the publics best interests instead of the few mega corporations that are working to garner you influence for their personal gain PLEASE do not reduce or suspend the current regulations relating to media ownership rules. Keep the current regulations in place and retain diversity in the free, open and balanced presentation of information

Sincerely,

Rodney R. Fager

Randie S. Hersh Fager

Ryan A. Fager

10416 Lee Blvd.

Leawood, KS 66206

From: erniej876@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:31 AM
Subject: Democracy

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect Americans from media monopolies!

From: Robert P Dominick
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:43 AM
Subject: <No Subject>

Dear Commissioner,

We feel very strongly about this issue of who controls media programming. Please listen to our concerns?

Before you vote on June 2nd to loosen media ownership rules, please take a moment to consider what effect such a move will have on program content.

We know that television can be profoundly influential in the lives of innocent young children. It affects their perceptions, their world-view, their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. It is also a sad reality that children spend more time with the television than at any other activity except sleep. But huge mega-conglomerates aren't going to be concerned about how the programming they are putting on TV influences these impressionable youngsters. They're only going to be looking at their profit margins.

Further deregulation will not mean greater opportunity for competition. Rather, it will mean the opposite: More control of the airwaves by the few, with even less accountability to the market than they demonstrate today.

The concept of community standards is alien to the suits in New York. Their bottom-line programming philosophy means bottom-of-the-barrel programming, and quality be hanged.

Locally-based station owners know better than network executives in New York and Los Angeles what is best for their communities.

I urge you to fully consider what is truly in the public's best interest, as opposed to what is in the best interest of a hand-full of major conglomerates. Please do not relax the media ownership rules.

Respectfully,
Bob and Susan Dominick
Jackson, CA

From: D. A. Karp
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:44 AM
Subject: Please vote NO

Hello,

I'm writing this to urge you to NOT vote to allow big media companies to buy more television stations. Once they've been given license to control our airwaves, it can't be taken back. Thank you.

=====

D. A. Karp
subscribe@creativelement.com

=====

From: composed@attbi.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:47 AM
Subject: Your Vote

Thank you for giving your time and energy, working with the Federal Communication Commission.

PLEASE vote so that large companies CANNOT own so much of the media.

We so much need the advantage of truth and competition in our informational sources.

With high respect and regard,

Sandra Layton Gordon, Mountain View, Ca.

From: Conseil@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy, Conseil@aol.com
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 12:53 AM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Kathleen Q. Abernathy
FCC Commissioner

Dear Ms Abernathy,

I have just watched a CNN story about the FCC's pending revision of broadcast ownership rules, and was struck by the breadth of the opposition.

Liberals and conservatives argued persuasively on this program that your proposed action would consolidate a large portion of the American broadcast media into the hands of a half-dozen companies, potentially reducing the number of independent media voices.

As a moderate Republican I am concerned that this is a move in the wrong direction, and hope you will reconsider your support for this misuse of the public airwaves.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Frisby
P.O. Box 10159
Salinas, CA 93912

From: ALSRW@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:06 AM
Subject: Deregulation of air waves

Dear FCC Commissioner,

I am very concerned about the move to further deregulate the air waves, so that one company can own several TV stations or a TV station and a newspaper, or several radio stations in one community. I think this will lead to less independent news reporting to the public. I also think communication companies should be regulated in such a way that the public is guaranteed to have objective reporting or all views presented equally. I do not favor the new laws you are about to decree. I hope you will give more consideration to this move.

Sincerely,
Anne Spencer
47212 Stonecrest
Plymouth, MI 48170

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Rick Miller
To: Commissioner Adelstein, Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM
KJMWEB
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:06 AM
Subject: Protect our sources of information

Chairman Michael K. Powell:
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy:
Commissioner Michael J. Copps:
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin:
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein:

Please reconsider the rule revisions you are considering. You are giving up a key check and balance in the flow of information. There are to many cases of media manipulation already. If the newspapers, publishing houses, magazines, TV & Radio stations and internet search engines / news sites are all owned by the corporations how do we keep ourselves from becoming even more manipulated than we are- If you think it isn't happening look at the Time Magazine 13 page spread on the Matrix movie that their parent company makes.

This is a time to be very conservative.

Regards,

Rick Miller
rigm@pacbell.net

From: Carol Shive
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:06 AM
Subject: deregulation

Dear Sir:

Do you really think that you can permanently get away with manipulation of the masses' information and furthering the control of the privileged, power hungry few on the planet?? Evidently you have NOT had a life-after-death experience, or any spiritual experience, for that matter. If you did, you would see clearly that when your body dies, you do live on and you have to go through reliving every single incident of how you affected each human's life here. Very painful I assure you. And painful because it's too late for you to go back and change it or say you are sorry to all those you have offended, private and public and the masses. This data goes way beyond any religion's dogma. This truth is a Senior Datum of existence. I can tell you, deciding in your mind that there is no "spiritual reality" does not excuse you, either. You still will be held responsible for having had a conscience, a still small voice, during your life. If you are not a member of the group which wishes to control the entire planet in the future, then believe me, it is truly happening. Don't be ignorant of this. I hope you do not allow the further tampering with our rights to the absolute TRUTH of what is happening at any given moment, politics or no, black projects or no, coverups or no. Do not support the deregulation. Anyway, your life is your life. If you do, you have been forewarned. I have friends in much more powerful places than you have, and I am asking them to make sure that you remember this moment of my warning, when the time comes that you are being forced to "live" through all the trauma that humans have endured because of important truths and discoveries being suppressed in the media for so many decades. How media cover-ups have changed for the worse the fate of the whole planet. tsk, tsk, tsk. You people in power get the biggest shock at the end... I'm glad that this lifetime I chose to not be super rich and have turned down power positions (a wife of a superrich executive) which I could have taken. I have garnered the experience of being on the "other side of the fence", and it has made me a wise being who can now take power and authority and not abuse it. I wish you the best in your life and death. Carol

PS, I do not know you personally, and I am sending this warning letter to all those who have import in this deregulation issue. If you are an "aware" person, then I apologize.

From: davidkoehnandterrithompson
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:11 AM
Subject: FCC Ownership Rules - YOU WANT TO ALLOW WHAT??!!

I am shocked and alarmed that you are actually considering letting the largest owners of news organizations to grow even larger monopolies than what they already have??

Why would you do that?? The biggest concern we have as a capitalistic society is letting monopolies get so large as to control the market. I'm shocked I didn't hear about this before now -- you're voting on it Monday morning - you won't have even read this by the time you vote! Gee, wonder if the reason why I hadn't heard was because almost no one wanted me to know. I was watching a network newscast no longer affiliated with a major network when I heard this story. I want you to know I am not one to write to government agencies lightly - in fact I've written two letters in my lifetime such as this -- to urge President Nixon to take the troops out of Vietnam, and to urge then Governor Reagan to do something about pollution in California (I was in high school then).

THIS IS A TRAVESTY!!! The air waves are public property -- we should have a broad diversity of opinion and access. I don't want any more of Disney -- they own everything already - the others on the list are just as bad. I just got my Time magazine with 'Matrix' all over the cover and it makes me want to. These corporations use the 'news' forum to pander their other products and not to provide the public with the information it is entrusted to provide. It's just another medium to be manipulated in the most blatant way!!!!

Do NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. I URGE YOU TO NOT ALLOW FURTHER MONOPOLIZATION OF THIS PUBLIC ASSET!!!

Terri Lee Thompson
175 Pacheco Avenue
Novato, CALIFORNIA 94947

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, jadelste@ffc.gov

From: Jessica McDill
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:11 AM
Subject: Re: June 2 Open Meeting

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I was recently made aware of your upcoming meeting, and the possibility that the items discussed might involve deregulation of the media industry. If this is the case:

Please...I implore you...do not let Clear Channel and other (are there any other media giants as large as Clear Channel?) monster media groups to control what the American public sees and hears. The idea of a handful of owners controlling almost the entirety of the media outlets in this country is horrifying. I say this not only because I'm tired of paying over-inflated prices to see a concert; not only because 4 out of 5 (if not all) of the radio station that I can listen to in my car are owned by one company; not only because the majority of the billboards that I see while driving in my car are owned by the above one company; not only because of the 3 newspapers that are delivered to my house, 2 of them are owned by the same company (and the other company is about to be bought out by the owner of the other 2) ; not only because some moron executive can be offended by a song or statement by an artist and keep said artist or song from being aired on over 1200 stations nationwide; what I find particularly terrifying is the stranglehold that one or two companies (primarily Clear Channel) has managed to gain on the First Amendment. The idea that a company can quiet the voices of dissent by crippling them financially, buying them for less than they're worth and then shutting them down... leaving them no outlet...that frightens me.

Didn't we just send soldiers over to Iraq in the name of Democracy and Freedom? Or was it just capitalism and greed? Please stop Clear Channel and other media giants from stealing our opportunity to hear both sides of the argument.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jessica L McDill, Houston, TX

"I feel that my social behavior may seem somewhat unrehearsed." J. Furstenfeld

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CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Susan Durham
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:17 AM
Subject: FCC Vote on Monday - vote no

Today the media is in crisis. Too few corporations own too many stations, newspapers, and channels. Everytime I try to follow news events by conventional means, I am disappointed by unanalytical, one-sided reporting. That's if the story is even reported.

In a free and democratic society, I would expect a broad variety of topics from a variety of viewpoints or from neutral viewpoints. What has happened to my country? Please do not further erode the ability of the American people to access news from different sources and viewpoints.

Thank you,

Susan Durham

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CC: Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB

From: housekid@juno.com
To: xxfireboy@mail.com
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:22 AM
Subject: Please do not relax the broadcast ownership rules!

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure as healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Winfred Mc Carty
Carson, CA 90745

From: E Fosse
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:22 AM
Subject: Exigency

Dear Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

I urge you to reconsider your effort to ratify a plan to weaken or eliminate rules that limit the size and power of media companies. The media have to be regulated so that a diversity of companies and ipso facto a diversity of perspectives can flourish. After all, where opinions clash, freedom rings.

Thank you.

Best,
Ethan A. Fosse

University of Kansas

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From: Denise Sutherland
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:38 AM
Subject: FCC Rule Change

I am writing to express my disappointment regarding the proposed FCC rule change on media consolidation and to request public hearings. I am very much against consolidation and the resulting "sameness" in entertainment and news reporting. Please support the American people, not big business.

Thank you,
Denise Sutherland

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From: Jessica McDill
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:41 AM
Subject: Re: June 2 Open Meeting

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Please ..I implore you...do not let Clear Channel and other (are there any other media giants as large as Clear Channel?) monster media groups to control what the American public sees and hears. The idea of a handful of owners controlling almost the entirety of the media outlets in this country is horrifying. I say this not only because I'm tired of paying over-inflated prices to see a concert; not only because 4 out of 5 (if not all) of the radio station that I can listen to in my car are owned by one company; not only because the majority of the billboards that I see while driving in my car are owned by the above one company; not only because of the 3 newspapers that are delivered to my house, 2 of them are owned by the same company (and the other company is about to be bought out by the owner of the other 2) ; not only because some moron executive can be offended by a song or statement by an artist and keep said artist or song from being aired on over 1200 stations nationwide; what I find particularly terrifying is the stranglehold that one or two companies (primarily Clear Channel) has managed to gain on the First Amendment. The idea that a company can quiet the voices of dissent by crippling them financially, buying them for less than they're worth and then shutting them down . leaving them no outlet...that frightens me.

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Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jessica L McDill, Houston, TX

"I feel that my social behavior may seem somewhat unrehearsed." J. Furstenfeld

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CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: meports
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 1:57 AM
Subject: Broadcasting cover up

I'm just wondering what the FCC is trying to cover up this coming Monday?

Michael Ports